

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/518,403	SHIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Christopher Onuaku	Art Unit 2616	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 1/19/06.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-30 (now renumbered 1-4,6,7,9-11,13,14,16-18,5,8,12,15&19, respectively).
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 10/3/05
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Terminal Disclaimer***

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on 10/12/04 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of US Patent No. 6,298,196 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

### **NOTE:**

2. Upon reconsideration of applicant's Terminal Disclaimer filed 10/12/04, and applicant's After Final amendments and arguments filed 1/19/06, the examiner has decided that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Consequently, the examiner's Advisory Action of 3/23/06 is now vacated.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 12-30 are allowable over the prior art of record.  
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 12, the invention relates to a technique for processing copyright information in recording apparatus such as video cassette recorders provided with a digital interface based on IEEE 1394 format and computers.

The closest reference Park (US RE37,052) discloses a copy prevention method and apparatus of a digital recording/reproducing system wherein a marker involving copy prevention function information and executing the function is coded and inserted to perform the copy prevention function and realize the copy prevention function of various patterns desired by a program supplier.

However, Park fails to explicitly disclose a method of screening a digital recording apparatus to determine whether a digital signal may be received by the digital recording apparatus, where the method further comprises the step of detecting copyright protection information, at a link layer, provided in a transmission header of a transmission frame of a digital signal to be inputted to the digital recording apparatus.

Regarding claim 16, the invention relates to a technique for processing copyright information in recording apparatus such as video cassette recorders provided with a digital interface based on IEEE 1394 format and computers.

The closest reference Park (US RE37,052) discloses a copy prevention method and apparatus of a digital recording/reproducing system wherein a marker involving copy prevention function information and executing the function is coded and inserted to perform the copy prevention function and realize the copy prevention function of various patterns desired by a program supplier.

However, Park fails to explicitly disclose an interface for screening a digital recording apparatus to determine whether a digital signal may be received by the digital recording apparatus, where the interface for screening a digital recording apparatus

further comprises means for detecting copyright protection information, at a link layer, provided in a transmission header of a transmission frame of a digital signal to be inputted to the digital recording apparatus.

Regarding claim 18, the invention relates to a technique for processing copyright information in recording apparatus such as video cassette recorders provided with a digital interface based on IEEE 1394 format and computers.

The closest reference Park (US RE37,052) discloses a copy prevention method and apparatus of a digital recording/reproducing system wherein a marker involving copy prevention function information and executing the function is coded and inserted to perform the copy prevention function and realize the copy prevention function of various patterns desired by a program supplier.

However, Park fails to explicitly disclose a control IC for controlling a link layer of a digital interface, where the control IC for controlling a link layer of a digital interface further comprises means for detecting copyright protection information, at a link layer, provided in a transmission header of a transmission frame of a digital signal to be inputted to the digital recording apparatus.

Regarding claim 21, the invention relates to a technique for processing copyright information in recording apparatus such as video cassette recorders provided with a digital interface based on IEEE 1394 format and computers.

The closest reference Park (US RE37,052) discloses a copy prevention method and apparatus of a digital recording/reproducing system wherein a marker involving

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copy prevention function information and executing the function is coded and inserted to perform the copy prevention function and realize the copy prevention function of various patterns desired by a program supplier.

However, Park fails to explicitly disclose an interface for screening a digital recording apparatus to determine whether a digital signal may be received by the digital recording apparatus, where the interface for screening a digital recording apparatus further comprises a first detector for detecting copyright protection information, at a link layer, provided in a transmission header of a transmission frame of a digital signal to be inputted to the digital recording apparatus.

Regarding claim 23, the invention relates to a technique for processing copyright information in recording apparatus such as video cassette recorders provided with a digital interface based on IEEE 1394 format and computers.

The closest reference Park (US RE37,052) discloses a copy prevention method and apparatus of a digital recording/reproducing system wherein a marker involving copy prevention function information and executing the function is coded and inserted to perform the copy prevention function and realize the copy prevention function of various patterns desired by a program supplier.

However, Park fails to explicitly disclose a control IC for controlling a link layer of a digital interface, where the control IC for controlling a link layer of a digital interface further comprises a detector for detecting copyright protection information, at a link

layer, provided in a transmission header of a transmission frame of a digital signal to be inputted to the digital recording apparatus.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*COO*  
COO  
3/23/06.

*James J. Groody*  
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Art Unit 262 2621